# Cross Cutting & Related Technologies: Remotely Piloted Vehicles

# Jenny Baer-Riedhart

NASA Dryden Flight Research Center/MS2083 jenny.baer-riedhart@dfrc.nasa.gov, (805) 258-3689

### Technology ERAST UAV Platforms

Perseus B

Centurion

Pathfinder Plus

Altus

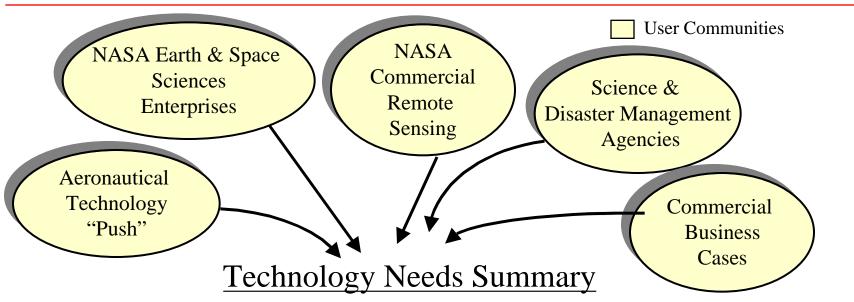
Demonstrator-2

Helios

Alliance I

**APEX** 

### Customers & Customer Requirements



- Extreme Duration, High Altitude Solar Electric UAV
  - ->100 kg payload, 65-100k ft altitude (months on-station)
  - <\$3M unit cost and <\$500/hour operations cost
- Conventionally Powered, High Altitude UAV Science Testbed or Commercial Mission Prototype
  - ->300 kg payload, 65k ft altitude, >48 Hours Endurance
  - ->300 kg payload, 85k ft altitude, >24 Hours Endurance
  - <\$5M unit cost and <\$750/hour operations cost

### **UAV** Technologies

#### Propulsion

- Conventional–spark piston engine
  - Turbomachinery
  - Engine cooling
- Solar-electric
  - Photovoltaics
- Propellers
- Battery

#### • Structures and materials

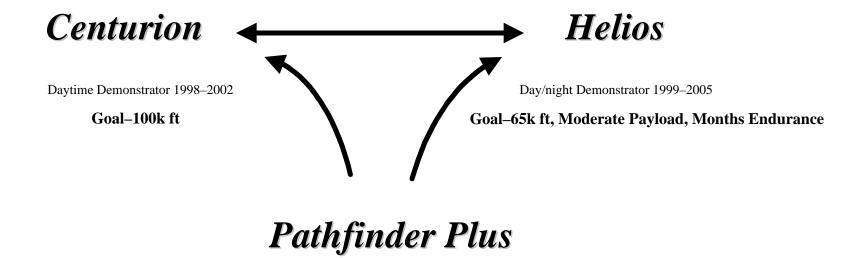
- Composites (including boron)
- Actuators
- Digital electronics
  - Miniature, high performance
  - EMI/arcing
- Flight management
  - Redundant flight control
  - Reliable flight control sensors

#### Heat rejection

- Exchangers
- Energy storage
  - Regenerative fuel cells/electrolyzers
  - Rechargeable batteries
- Command, control, communications
  - Reliable, efficient
  - Satcom
  - Payload interfaces
- Operations
  - Efficient, low cost
- Computer models and simulations
- Integrated sensors

Extreme operating conditions—low Reynold's number, speed, temperatures and pressure

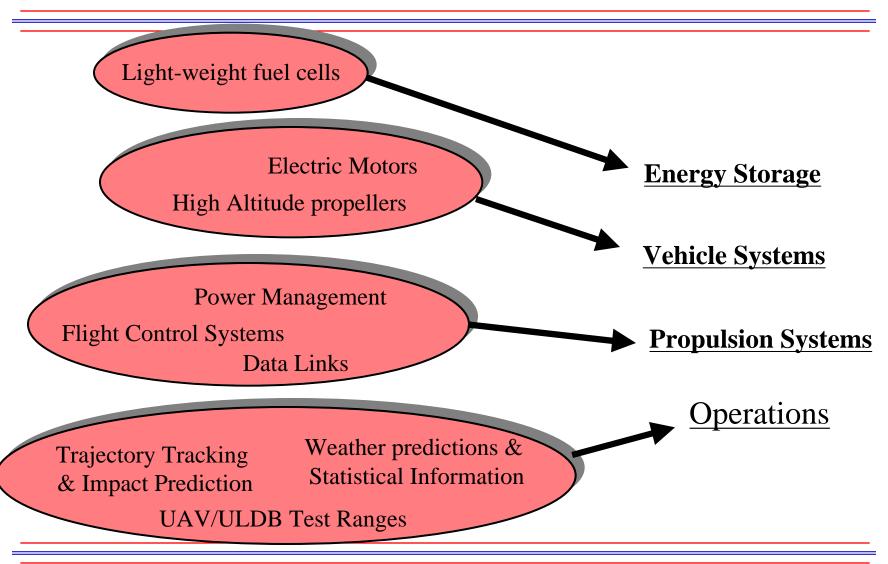
# Extreme Duration and Altitude Solar-Powered Technology



Daytime Demonstrator 1995--2000

World Record Altitude-80,200 ft-6 August 1998

# Cross-Cutting Technologies -UAVs & ULDBs



# Operational Requirements of UAVs for the 21st Century

- Operation in National/International airspace
- Over-the-Horizon (OTH) communications
- "See-Detect/Avoidance" capability
- Certification criteria for Vehicles & Operators
- Safe, economical & reliable operations in a global environment

# **UAV** Test Ranges

- UAVs require large areas for long periods of time for testing
- The Pacific Missile Range Facility in Kauai has proved to be a nearly ideal location for such testing
  - Large military airbase with facilities
  - Unobstructed airspace with cooperative FAA participation
  - Logistics support and telecom infrastructure in "austere" location
  - Local people easily trained to augment test operations
  - High tech support for test missions
  - Ideal science collection environment in the islands

